

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[63] A programmatic interface to allow external functions to be registered and called in parallel from within a database management system is described for coordinating a computation at multiple nodes. In one embodiment, each node executes a process configured for starting a program to perform the computation in response to a command received from a database system. In response to receiving a query at the database system, multiple commands are transmitted to the processes for concurrently performing the computation at each said corresponding process. Results are received from each of the processes and execution of the statement is completed based on the results received.